

# MANZANAR Free Press

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## DILLON MEYER EXPLAINS NECESSARY PROCEDURES IN OBTAINING GRANTS

Policy of the War Relocation Authority in issuing grants was clarified this week in a teletype from WRA Director Dillon S. Myer.

The teletype stated that relocation subsistence grants which are provided at the rate of \$25 per person and subsistence grants while in route of \$3 per day, are still available as previously. These are available to center residents, including those who have been reintroduced in accordance with established procedures, and issued only in cases of need.

Travel grants and transportation of personal property, however, are being more widely extended. Without reference to individual need, they are available on the following basis:

1. Residents on the army's cleared list to any point in the United States.

2. Residents designated for exclusion but not on the army's stop list to any point outside the evacuated areas, excluding the eastern and the Gulf coast lines.

3. Former residents now out on indefinite leave and not excluded by the Western Defense Command to any point within the state or portion of state from which the applicant was originally evacuated.

4. Voluntary evacuees not excluded by the Western Defense Command to any point within the state or portion of state from which the applicant was originally evacuated.

In all cases, relocation plans must be approved before travel grants and property transportation can be made available. Plans of center residents may be approved at the center except where advance approval of the relocation officer is required.

In the case of those who were out on indefinite leave at the (Continued on Page Three)

## HONOR PROJECT DIRECTOR MERRITT AT SECOND ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

Project Director Ralph P. Merritt was honored at a second anniversary banquet held at the Mess Hall 27, Wednesday evening January 17 for his untiring work and ceaseless efforts during the past two years. The appreciation party was held by the Block Managers' assembly, Community Activities Cooperative Association and the Manzanar Cooperative Enterprises representatives with over 200 attending.

This second anniversary party was scheduled for December 15, 1944 but was postponed because Mr. Merritt was confined to his

home with pneumonia at that time.

Executive Secretary of the Town Hall Frank Yasuda acted as master of ceremonies for the evening. Herbert Thorne's Manzanar Salon Orchestra played a few selections. Two Japanese dance numbers were featured and a vocal by Yukio Ogawa. Making his initial appearance, Yukio Ogawa sang "Through the Years."

Mr. Merritt was the recipient of a vase presented by the block managers' assembly, and a scroll containing the signatures of the members of the various organizations.

## On Exclusion Orders

It is expected that Officers of the United States Army will have completed their work of considering and approving requests for terminal leave and issuing of Exclusion orders at the close of business today.

There are some who have been issued exclusion orders who feel that their cases have not been fairly judged. For these there is a remedy since it is the intention of the Army authorities that no injustice be done to any evacuee.

Provision is made for appeal and beginning the first week of February an Appeal Board will come to Manzanar and consider all cases protested by evacuees.

All evacuees who feel that the exclusion orders given them are unfair are encouraged to contact Mr. Alan Campbell, project attorney in his office block 1, building 2.

Mr. Campbell has the proper forms which must be filled out for the Appeal Board to consider, and will give assistance to each evacuee who feels that justice has not been done in his case.

## Anti-Nisei Feeling Hits Coast Stores

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 20—Anti-Japanese feeling manifested itself in a new way into two Oregon communities this week as signs appeared in store windows warning returning Japanese that "no Jap trade" will be solicited, disclosed the Los Angeles Examiner.

It stated that placards sprouted through Hood River Valley, where the American Legion Post recently provoked bitter controversy by erasing the names of Nisei soldiers from its community honor roll.

The Examiner added that repair shops, groceries, filling stations, and hardware stores joined in the move.

In conclusion, the paper revealed that some of the merchants who were displaying the signs were members of the Oregon Anti-Japanese Inc., which opposed Nisei taking back acreage leased to white farmers during the coast ban.

## 15,000 WAR JOBS SEEN FOR NISEI ON COAST RETURN

"If the Nisei returned promptly they could fill at least 15,000 vital war jobs in west coast industry and on farms," stated H. Boyd, chairman of San Francisco Council for Civic Duty at a conference held recently in San Francisco, Calif.

A two day conference aimed at solving the foremost problems of returning Japanese evacuees to the West Coast opened between leaders of racial relations groups and federal officials, revealed the Daily News. Boyd previously pointed out that the chief factor limiting the return of the Nisei is their uncertainty as to available housing and employment, and the misunderstanding on these points are hindering the war effort.

Governor Earl Warren, absent because of legislature session, wired the opening meeting:

"It is most important function of citizenship as well as government to protect constitution rights, and I am pleased to note that plans are being made everywhere to discourage friction during the period of the return of Americans of Japanese ancestry to our state."

Among the other conference speakers were Dillon S. Myer, director of the War Relocation Authority; Fay Hunter, regional director of the War Manpower Commission and Harry Kingman, regional director of the Presidents committee on Fair Employment Practices.

## Haight Cautions On Anti-Nisei Attitude

VISALIA, Calif.—Addressing the members of the Tulare County Peace Officers Association in their annual meeting, Walter C. Haight, district attorney, cautioned that common sense, tolerance and an understanding of the rights of American citizens must be exercised by law enforcement agencies and the public in dealing with the returning Japanese, the Los Angeles Times declared.

The district attorney said that emotional impulses must be curbed from the beginning and the rough shod methods of discouraging resettlement of Nisei would retard making the best of a complicated situation.

## EIGHT RESIDENTS LEAVE CENTER FOR INDUCTION AT FORT DOUGLAS

Eight residents, who were sworn into the Enlisted Reserve Corps on Wednesday, November 29, 1944, were notified this week to report for active duty, announced Thelma Kellesvig, in charge of Manzanar's Selective Service matters.

The group, which will leave here by bus on Monday afternoon, 5:45 p.m., includes Tetsuo

Ando of 18-1-4, Joe Sakai of 3-10-4, Haruo Hori of 5-4-2, Jiro Iwata of 3-1-4, George Izumi of 23-5-4, Louis Sakamoto of 21-10-4, Tadashi Kiyomura of 26-13-3 and Yoshio R. Kishi of 12-8-4.

The eight were sworn into the Enlisted Reserve Corps in a ceremony at Mess Hall 16 conducted by Captain A. M. Branson, induction officer from the Ninth Service Command Recruiting and induction District.

The teletype, from Commanding General Shedd of the Headquarters of the Ninth Service Command at Fort Douglas, Utah was received on Wednesday.

At the same time, Miss Kellesvig disclosed that she has been asked by the Bishop Draft Board to prepare a list of all male citizens between the ages of 18 to 38 for use by the draft boards in calling up additional inductees.

The last group to be called for active duty at Fort Douglas from this center left on January 6, 1945 and consisted of Roy Izumi of 23-5-4, Bert Miura of 25-10-4, Frank Sakata of 23-6-1 and Tomiye Izumi, formerly of 23-5-4, who had relocated to Chicago.

## Donate \$478.79 For Korematsu's Case

Godfrey L. Cabot, a business man of Boston, Mass., recently sent a Christmas present of \$478.79 to the National Japanese American Citizens League Headquarters, according to their press release.

The release stated that the money was sent to defray partly the expense incurred by the JACL in filing the brief in the Korematsu evacuation case carried to the Supreme Court. The total cost of the brief was \$1114.

Last year when the JACL filed a brief in the Yasui-Hirabayashi cases, Cabot donated over \$1000 for the printing of the brief.

## Yasuda To Address Jr. Matrons Group

Experiences of the recent trip made by Frank Yasuda, executive secretary of Town Hall, to Los Angeles, and to meeting of the Pacific Coast Committee of American Principles and Fair Play in San Francisco Calif., on January 10 and 11, will be related when the Junior Matrons of the YWCA meet tomorrow afternoon at 2 p.m. at 19-15.

Invitations are extended to young women and wives of the servicemen in the center who are interested to attend the meeting and participate in the activities of the organization.

## OPA Clarifies Stand On Eviction Orders

LOS ANGELES—"The OPA can do nothing more than accord the same rights to all citizens," declared Ben C. Koepke, newly appointed district director of the Office of Price Administration Rent Control Office in clarifying the attitude toward current Japanese resettlement controversy, disclosed the Los Angeles Times.

"In the event a returning Japanese home owner serves an eviction notice on a tenant, the procedure is well established," Koepke said.

He added, "After that, the tenant is under the jurisdiction of the State Courts, not the OPA, because the rent office, in effect, steps aside and allows state law to take its course."

## Discharged Veteran Found Dead At Gila

Joe Tsujimoto, a 29-year-old discharged veteran of World War II, was found dead at his home at Gila Rivers, Ariz., Relocation Center with a knife wound thru his heart, disclosed the Gila News-Courier.

The Courier stated that the wound was probably self-inflicted.

Tsujimoto was discharged from the Army on December 28, 1943, and had been residing with his parents at the Gila Center ever since.

The Gila News-Courier revealed that the veteran was found dead by his father, who with other members of the family, had attended the Japanese movie at the amphitheater.

## Leaves This Week

Indefinite	22
Seasonal	0
Short Term	32

## PERSONS ON LEAVE

Indefinite	2503
Seasonal	10
Short Term	25
Residue	5489

## Speaking Class Open For More Students

Interested persons may still register for the public speaking class which began this week, announced Gladys C. Schwesinger, director of Adult Education.

The classes meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 p.m. at 16-9-2.

The Adult Education director declared, "The course will give students an opportunity to organize and present both informal and formal speeches and will give special emphasis in microphone techniques."

## Propose Stripping Citizenship Rights Of Disloyal Japanese

Complaining that present statutes are inadequate to penalize Japanese Americans who refuse to support the United States in time of war, Representative J. Leroy Johnson (R) of Stockton, California proposed in Congress that a stronger law stripping disloyal Japanese Americans of citizenship rights, reported the Los Angeles Times.

## Encourage Evacuees To Eastern States

SAN FRANCISCO—Speaking at the opening session of a race relation conference, WRA Director Dillon S. Myer disclosed that the government will encourage the evacuees to resettle to the east, stated the Los Angeles Times.

Mr. Myer pointed out that there are some 75,000 Japanese still in the various relocation camps and that less than 400 have completed plans to return to the West Coast. He added that the bulk of the movement to the evacuated areas is expected between March 1 and September 1.

The War Department Authority director stated that Nisei who enter war work on returning to the West Coast will be eligible for war housing. He added, however, that "They will not be encouraged to come to congested war production centers in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle and Portland, unless they have the key to the house in their pocket."